# **BUCKEYE PAPERS** FAVOR PROPOSAL

Declare for Greater Stability in Constitutional Affairs.

#### SUPPRESSION OF AGITATORS

is One of Objects Aimed at by the League That Would Put an End to Continuous Performance of Faddists-Would Not Cripple Proper Use of Initiative and Referendum.

Columbus, O .- (Special.) - The Constitutional Stability League, with headquarters at No. 8 East Broad street, announced today that the prorosed constitutional amendment limiting elections on twice defeated prolosals would have the indorsement and support of over 80 per cent of the newspapers of the state.

"Practically every leading daily and weekly newspaper in the state have advised that they will actively support this amendment," said Secretary H. A. McKenzie today. "This shows the popular demand for such an amendment and the only announced opposition comes from salaried agitators and the smaller papers which they control. Our files are filled with favorable newspaper comments, and here are some samples of what the learned editors of a few of the more amendment:

CONSTITUTIONAL STABILITY. "No amendment of the constitution shall be submitted to the electors which involves any proposal or part of any proposal which, since Sept. 4, 1912, shall have been rejected more than once by the electors, unless six years shall have elapsed since the last

This is the gist of a proposed constitutional amendment upon which ing it, will think only of now its adop-



H. A. M'KENZIE. Secretary Constitutional Stability League of Ohio.

tion would affect their own particular whim, fad or reform. Viewed purely as an abstract proposal, as it should te, it would appeal to almost every thoughtful and steady-minded man. Nothing is gained by anybody, except those who profit directly by agitation, from keeping the state stirred up year after year by new expressions of opinion on the same old recently decided questions. Nothing is gained and much is lost in the way of attention to business and peace of mind. It is a fair and sane proposal that a propin a space of three years shall not be thrust upon them again for a while. Think it over as an abstract proposition, mind you, and see if you don't agree to that .- Ohio State Journal.

DOWN WITH THE AGITATORS. It appears that those who predicted

that Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow of Cincinnati would line up in favor of the proposed constitutional amendment which would prohibit for a period of six years the submission of an initiated measure that had once been submitted to a vote of the people, were sadly mistaken, for the reverend gentleman has come out on the other s'de. This is properly where he belongs and the wonder is that anybody ever thought of placing him in any other category.

This proposed amendment is aimed not at crippling the usefulness of the initiative and referendum, but at the agitators who would use it ad limitum for the purpose of getting their pet hobby into the basic law of the state by exhausting the opposition. There ic no reasonable sense in submitting any big question to the people more than once in six years and Rev. Bigelow and his kind will find that the people of Ohlo have become so tired of the ceaseless agitation of personal hobbies that they will adopt it by an everwhelming vote.-Tiffin (O.) Ad-

MISUSES OF THE I. AND R.

There is common sense in the propesition that the constitution of the state should not be subjected to attack year after year, without limit, by the same interests or with the same end in view. The fundamental law, while it should never be utterly be-

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youd the reach of the amending hand, ought to be fairly stable. Statutes may now be changed every two years. Shall we assume that the constitution basis of statutes, should be subject to change every year? It would be r'diculous, of course, to make or act upon such an assumption. Yet in the last three matters-the taxation of municipal bonds, prohibition and woman suffrage-there has been a disposition on the part of some persons to think that the people do not know their own minds, and the method of yearly attack is in danger of being adopted. It is therefore proposed to amend the constitution at the coming election by the addition of this pro-

"No amendment of the constitution or any part of any proposal, which since Sept. 4, 1912, shall have been twice rejected by the electors, shall be submitted, unless six years shall have elapsed since the last rejection.

This does not affect any vote pro

posed for this year. It means simply that hereafter any proposition which has been twice rejected since the adoption of the new constitution shall rot again be submitted to the people for six years. That is a perfectly reasonable proposition, and it ought to prevail. We ought to have too much regard for our state constitution to subject it to any "Off-again-on-againgone-again-Finnegan" program of amendment. Besides, there are other matters of public policy, the consideration of which should not be continually interrupted by futile asitation of questions recently settled .- Columbus

WARS OF ATTRITION UNDER THE . I. AND R.

The Constitutional Stability league is the rather high sounding name of prominent dailies have to say for this an organization which has been formed for the purpose of initiating and supporting a new amendment to the constitution of Ohio. This amendment provides that no amendment to the state constitution which has twice Leen rejected by the electors since the adoption of the L and R. in 1912, shall again be submitted to the voters until six years have elapsed since the last ejection.

It was inevitable that a movement Ohio will vote in November. It is a, of this sort should be started sooner great pity that so many, in consider- or later in Ohio. The submission year after year of amendments which do not meet with the favor of a majority of the voters has possibilities of con-

siderable evil in our politics. Take the question of prohibition as an example. Ohio voted on a prohibit:on amendment last November. The amendment was defeated-but almost immediately it was announced that there would be another vote on the cuestion in 1915. It is understood to be the purpose of the "dry" leaders to present a prohibition amendment every year for an indefinite period. They are said to be prompted not so much by the hope of early victory as ly the idea that the constant struggle will exhaust the financial resources of the "wets" and break down their resistance: that at the same time it will yeary the public, and that eventually the prohibition amendment will slip tarough.

A program of this sort may be all very well from the standpoint of propagandists. But it is unfair and contrary to the spirit of our politics. To the man who is not particularly excited over the liquor question one way or the other, it must appear as an unmitigated nuisance. The state is to be kept stirred up year after year by the submission and re-submission of constitutional amendments. The voter is not to be allowed to settle, in a calm frame of mind, questions which appear to him of great importance, be cause of the endless battle of the amendments.

A campaign of attrition against th resources of an enemy, with neutrals tuffering many losses, may be justified in war. It is not justified in politics The L and R has done pretty well in Ohio. But it should be used as a

means by which the people can ex press their opinion on any public ques tion, not as a device for the waging aganda twice rejected by the voters of continual warfare, by one group of special issue enthusiasts against enother.-Cincinnati Times-Star.

CONSTITUTIONAL STABILITY. There are many persons who are against frequent changes in the fundamental law and who believe that the state should not be compelled to meet the expense of holding elections as often as an interested organization may wish. They desire a respite of a period of years before the same New Wheat..... 90 can not be denied that several pro posed amendments have been referred to the electorate during the last dec-warranted. It would be better if a halt were called somewhere. The decision of the electorate should be binding for a little while at least. Little, it any, good is accomplished by keeping the electorate in constant turmoil. -East Liverpool (O.) Review.

GIVE US A REST.

It is now proposed to limit elections on twice defeated constitutional pro- Turkeys ..... posals in Ohio, by providing that no subsequent election shall be permitted on the same question until six years shall have elapsed after the last rejection. To us this appears reasonable and looks like anything else than a "diabolical attack on the initiative and referendum." Having defeated a question twice, the people of the state would very naturally appreciate a period of rest from agitation over the same old question. To be whipped once often settles a fellow. To get two threshings generally fixes him so that he is willing to wait until he is stout again .-- Mt. Gilead (O.) Union-Register,

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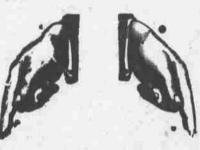
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